

Sierra Nevada Conservancy

Property Rights

Bishop (Eastern)

- Why are the tribes not represented on the SNC board? How can they be given a seat
- It is insulting that the Resources agency mistakenly labels the Cascade Mountain Range as part of the Sierra-this will be very confusing to our children learning geography
- How does land ownership by SNC work with "no net loss of private land" in the Inyo G.P.
- Can the SNC fund legal actions against DWP?
- How will local resource conservation districts be involved?
- Does the SNC's purpose as a project funding source overlap with the regions RC&D's
- "Working landscapes" need to be defined by local people and tribes because it might be very different from urban perspectives

Susanville (Northern)

- Protection and maintenance for resources
- Westwood visitor center was built but no operational money
- Acquisition of conservation easement shouldn't necessarily include public access
- Would like a funding source for conservation easements
- Surprise Valley visitor center in planning process, help educate about working landscapes, but no \$\$\$
- Play a role to facilitate bringing multiple landowners together to discuss and resolve and then implement to create healthy landscapes and fuel reduction
- Need an approach for limiting liability expense for land trusts which take on sites with possible environmental hazards.

Sonora (South-Central)

- Maintaining viable agriculture industry as an objective acquisition criteria
- Support outreach efforts of local land trusts to inform property owners of options available to them to protect AG land and open space and make sure they function effectively

Fresno (Southern)

- Potential funding for research and monitoring on private land (range) Oak Woodland Preservation Techniques. (Tulare County)
- Funding for demonstration projects
- Can Sierra Nevada Conservancy hold public / private easement? Will land be limited?
- Joint public / private partnerships (Cooperative)
- Water Right high priority
- Conservation easements are not a violation of property rights, willing donors, or sellers
- Can Conservancy provide and to non-profits or public agencies for Land Purchases? Yes!
- Is the Sierra Nevada Conservancy more interested in utilizing non-profits for holding conservation easements versus Sierra Nevada Conservancy holding CE ownership
- Can the Sierra Nevada Conservancy influence/ facilitate/ encourage (including funding) Bureau of Land Management and Kern County Sheriff department to address trespass and public encroachments from BLM lands onto abutting private land
- 11 million dollars being used to study off-road vehicles. Wants money used for better purpose
- Promote/ fund environmental education programs for young people
- Kern River Valley ground water concerns
- Can the SNC fund restoration of degraded watershed and areas of environmental importance or sensitivity on private and BLM lands? (especially where caused by public use and access)
- Promote historical and community cultural support versus commercialism (big macs)
- Can SNC help maintain viability of ranches and what will be the SNC's role, if any in helping to protect private grazing rights on BLM versus VSFS land? What about private logging rights on Federal land?

Property Rights

El Dorado (Central)

- Public outreach to private owners to teach them about BMP's for their land
- Would SNC have management plans for any lands it has an interest in?
- Acquire conservation easements for habitat protection and open space preservation
- Want clarification on how SNC proposed to consult with local governments on proposed projects (wording on #3 in "can-do" list in unclear)
- Want more program projects that encourage minimization of subdivision of land
- Have a program for private property owners to voluntarily have cultural/historical resources of their property documented and included in a database of such resources
- Help property owner and local governments become aware of locations of veins of naturally occurring asbestos
- Want to know if SNC can hold easements- want clarification
- Definitely don't want SNC funding any condemnation proceedings by local entities
- Emphasis on maintaining private property wherever possible and with voluntary, incentive-based programs to keep properties economically viable
- Concerned about SNC being involved in properties being taken off tax rolls, and how to compensate counties for such loss
- Can SNC lease development rights (not in perpetuity- maybe 20-25 year lease) as a way to maintain working landscapes and keep property in tax base? Can help mitigate development pressures. Grazing one specific concern
- Need to balance increased financial burdens of rural residential development against current tax revenues from pre-development state
- Utilize state assets (CYA, CCC) on private property for fuel/ fire hazard reduction

Quincy (North-Central)

- Land purchased by SNC must be maintained, including bugs, overgrown, etc.
- Maintenance agreements are strongly recommended
- Inventory of biological diversity on public and private land
- Need to prioritize conservation efforts
- Need overall land planning
- Need to restore east-side flyway (down to Tulare basin) restore the network of lakes, marshes and seasonal wetlands, need a viable network
- SNC should help organize the above inventory by bringing together professionals from federal state and other public agencies
- SNC should take guidance from well-informed local experts and specialists
- Need mechanisms for holding private land-owners accountable to protect areas that have been restored on private lands
- Want major support for local business in SNC area, especially small business support
- Want help with local general plans
- SNC should work with local agricultural interests to set up agricultural preservation easements
- DO NOT forget SNEP